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US ARMY

## USAG Schinnen Tri-Border News Notes



### Latin concert gives Tri-Border Community a Memorial Day to remember



Latin singer, Elida Reyna performed for an enthusiastic crowd, Sept. 1 at the Joint Forces Command Brunsum Club 13. The singer brought audience members and fans to their feet with her mix of traditional Mexican sounds and contemporary, pop musical styling's (photo by: LaDonna Davis)

By LaDonna Davis

Award-winning Tejano songstress, Elida Reyna performed for a crowd of Tri-Border community members during an Armed Forces Entertainment tour Sept. 1 at Joint Forces Command Brunsum, Club 13.

Having performed overseas in the past for AFE, Reyna is familiar with the busy, hectic, and at times, unpredictable schedule being on tour can present; and it's a good thing.

After arriving in the Netherlands from Texas more than five hours behind schedule, Reyna and her band were undoubtedly tired and jet lagged, but, in spite of the delay, she went on to perform a series of songs ranging from traditional Mexican music, to more contemporary and pop sounds for more than two hours in front of an enthusiastic crowd.

"We're a bit worn, we pretty much slept all the way

over here," said Reyna, prior to her concert and only a few hours after arriving in the Netherlands. "We haven't had a chance to really go out and enjoy Europe yet, but we'll be here for two weeks so we're really looking forward to it."

A native of Mercedes, Texas, Reyna began her career more than 15 years ago performing at Quinceañera's and weddings. It wasn't until 1991, though that she began singing professionally when she met renowned arranger Noel Hernandez. A year later, Reyna announced to her parents that she was leaving college and pursuing a career in music. In an unusual turn of events, it was her father who turned out to be her greatest supporter and even bought her and her group an RV to show his encouragement.

Today, Reyna has recorded more than 11 albums with original songs on them and in 2000, was awarded with Female Entertainer of the Year and Female Vocalist

of the Year awards at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Tejano Music Awards.

Married with two young children, Reyna's life remains hectic, but even so, she still finds time to tour with AFE in an effort to show her support for the men and women serving overseas.

"It's nice to be able to interact with the troops and keep their moral up, that's a lot of fun," Reyna said. "I've recorded like 12 or 13 albums with original songs on them, so a lot of the audience, especially the Texans and the Hispanics; they are familiar with the music. So, when we come out to do these shows and they recognize the music; I know it makes them feel like they're back home. And that's why we're here so that they can enjoy themselves, and it's been a great experience. We get to meet so many interesting people and families and husbands and wives and their kids, so that's a big treat."



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## NEWS

## Make your military health benefits work for you: Check your coverage

By Tri-Care Europe Public Affairs

All this month, we're providing information for those new to the European theater or who have recently had a change in their family—such as a move or a new baby—about keeping their military health benefit up to date. Last week, we discussed Step 1: Verify Eligibility by ensuring your DEERS information is updated (see [www.tricare.osd.mil/DEERS](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/DEERS) for details). This week, we'll tell you how to make sure you have the coverage your family needs.

### Step 2: Check Your Coverage

In Europe, active-duty family members have two options for medical care: TRICARE Prime and TRICARE Standard.

Most active-duty families choose TRICARE Prime, which offers no out-of-pocket costs for covered services, a Primary Care Manager and priority access to military medical facilities. Enrollment is required.

TRICARE Standard covers all retirees and is an option for active-duty family

members who want more freedom to choose providers. Costs include deductibles (money you pay before TRICARE benefits take effect) and cost shares (a percentage of medical bills which you are responsible for paying). Though costs are higher than TRICARE Prime, they are still significantly lower than most civilian health plans.

### How to Enroll

To enroll in TRICARE Prime, active-duty families should contact their local TRICARE Service Center (go to [www.europe.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.europe.tricare.osd.mil) and click "TRICARE Service Centers").

Retirees under age 65 and active-duty families who choose TRICARE Standard do not need to enroll, but it is still a good idea to contact your TRICARE Service Center to verify that you are in the system correctly. Retirees who are 65 or older must enroll in Medicare Part B to be eligible for TRICARE for Life. Your TRICARE Service Center can provide information on how to

do this.

There are a variety of special programs for Reserve component members, and their families, who are on active duty or who have been activated in support of a major contingency such as Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom. Go to [www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/) for details.

### Dental Care

Military dental facilities overseas treat family members on a space-available basis. The availability of appointments varies by location and circumstances—such as deployments. Therefore, active-duty and certain reeserve component families are encouraged to consider enrollment in the TRICARE Dental Program, which offers coverage for most dental procedures, including orthodontics and dental implants, for a low monthly premium. Active-duty families pay just \$10.51 for one family member and \$26.27 for multiple family members. For details, go to

## Army changes evaluation process

By Shane Thomas, deputy brigade personnel officer, 1st Personnel Command

The Army has changed the way officer and noncommissioned officer evaluation report forms are processed and submitted to the Department of the Army.

The new processes includes digital signature authority with the Common Access Card, activating forms via the Forms Content Management Program and changes to regulations governing the Army's evaluation reporting system.

The implementation period to the new evaluation system began in July and the mandatory use of the new forms begins Oct. 13.

The Army Knowledge On-line portal provides Soldiers and leaders access to the enhanced evaluation system. To obtain the forms, click on the "My Forms" tab on the AKO home page.

Users must have two programs installed on their office computers before using the new form filing procedure:

PureEdge Viewer to view and complete the forms, and Silanis ApproveIt for digital signatures. Without the two programs, users will not be able to view, edit, route or digitally sign evaluations. Users should contact their local Information Management Office to obtain this software and for assistance with software installation.

A variety of new capabilities for routing, reviewing and signing the evaluation form comes with the new electronic evaluation system. Each evaluator in the rating chain, including the rated Soldier, will digitally sign the report with their CAC.

Under the new process, a rated Soldier is the last person to digitally sign the electronic evaluation and the senior rater is responsible for transmitting completed document directly to HQDA. Personnel services battalions are no longer part of the evaluation process.

The electronic history and routing capabilities provide tools for tracking

and forwarding the evaluation through the rating chain. The document history, accessed through AKO, provides continuously updated information on who has received the evaluation and the document's current status and location. The routing tool enables the current owner of a document to forward it as an original copy to the next evaluator in the rating chain or to the rated Soldier, as well as sending a read-only information copy to others for review.

Details on the new procedures are spelled out in Army Regulation 623-3, the "Evaluation Reporting System", and Department of the Army Pamphlet 623-3.

Additionally, Human Resources Command has provided an extensive train the trainer package on its "Evaluation's" Web site: [https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/TAGD/MSD/ESO/FCMP\\_Webpage.htm](https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/TAGD/MSD/ESO/FCMP_Webpage.htm)

Unit military personnel offices also have information about the new process.

## LEGAL

**FREE LEGAL AID ON THE DUTCH ECONOMY**

By The Netherlands Law Center

What could possibly be better than "Going Dutch?" Well, how about getting something completely for free?! The Dutch government has set up a partially-subsidized program with 30 locations throughout The Netherlands called "Het Juridisch Loket" (English translation = The Legal Counter) that provides free legal information and advice to anyone with a Dutch legal issue.

Such legal issues include: rental and housing problems, consumer issues, problems with your neighbor, problems involving permits and driver's licenses, and even criminal law matters. If you purposely drove your un-registered vehicle into your neighbor's rental unit, then you'd probably have issues with ALL those examples! Fear not, however, "Het Juridisch Loket" would be there for you!

Most of your questions can be answered quickly by providing you with accurate guidance straight away or advising you on how to proceed. This can be done, for example, by helping you write a letter. Het Juridisch Loket has many stan-

dard letters available for your use. However, sometimes more is needed and you may have to start a legal procedure.

Both the information and initial advice are free of charge. If you need further help from an attorney and are entitled to subsidized legal assistance, then the government will pay the greater part of the costs. You will have to pay a contribution depending on your income. Het Juridisch Loket can also provide you information on subsidized legal assistance, mediation and other costs, such as court fees.

How to get in touch with Het Juridisch Loket:

- ◆ **Telephone** – by calling 0900-8020. A call costs 10 Eurocents per minute and you will get a trained legal assistant on the line who will listen to your problem and advise you on the quickest way to a solution. If the call does not bring an immediate solution, then the assistant will make an appointment for you with the nearest Het Juridisch Loket.

- ◆ **Internet** – [www.hetjl.nl/hetjl/](http://www.hetjl.nl/hetjl/) - This website is in the Dutch language only and therefore not user-friendly for potential U.S. clients.

- ◆ **Locations in Limburg :**

*Avenue Ceramique 2 -6*

*Geerstraat 105  
6221 KV MAASTRICHT  
Tel: 0900-8020  
Fax: 045-5711295*

*Geerstraat 105  
6221 KV MAASTRICHT  
6411 AE HEERLEN  
Tel: 0900-8020  
Fax: 043-3252920*

If you have any questions concerning this "Dutch Treat" or have any other legal concerns, please contact The Netherlands Law Center at DSN 364-6204 or civilian 0031 45-563-6204.

### **The Netherlands Law Center, Claims Office Note**

**Because of Fiscal Year 06 closeout, the Claims Office of The Netherlands Law Center has to stop payments as of Sept. 5, 2006. Claims received after Sept. 5, 2006 will be processed up till the point of payment and will be forwarded to the Benelux Finance Office upon receipt of funds for Fiscal Year 07.**



## REMEMBRANCE

***The tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, effected many people in many different ways, but regardless of our personal ties to the events, one fact is certain, none of us will ever be the same. Here is what you had to say.....***

***"I remember the numbness, I watched the same thing over and over again on TV. It was painful but I had to watch." Monique Peels, DHR***

***"It was not only an attack on Americans, it was an attack on the whole world. Rita Hoefnagels," Public Affairs***

***"The world is a more secure place after 9-11. We have tightened up and we are safer from terrorists and criminals now." Randy Carfield, DPTMS***

## **Five years later remembering 9-11**

***"I knew something is wrong in the world,, I will never forget that moment." Ten Fiddlers, DOL***

***"The events of 9-11 caused me to volunteer in the mail room, I wanted to do something -so I volunteered - It made me more patriotic." Cari Thomas, DHR***

***"It showed me the true spirit of the American people, they are good, Soldiers and civilians came together and were helping each other, if anything, that was the good that came from the tragedy." Staff Sgt. Antonio Guzman-Mariscal, DPTMS***

## **Let us never forget.**

## LEISURE

## Leisure Activities ~ by Rita Hoefnagels

**Sept. 7-10:** *Country Fair* at Castle "Huis Doorn" in Doorn (NL). An exclusive fair in the impressive setting of the Doorn Estate, refuge to the German ex-emperor Willem II after World War I. Open: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Entry: €1.

**Through Sept. 8:** A traditional *Cheese and Old Crafts Market* is held every Friday, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Waagplein in the center of Alkmaar (NL).

**Sept. 9:** *Open Monument/"Botterdag"* in the harbor and center of Elburg (NL). Many monuments, among which the former synagogue, can be visited without paying entry this day. In the harbor visitors will find a fair with old crafts, boat trips, traditional costumes and lots more. Open: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Sept. 9-10:** *National Open Monument Days*. On these days the majority of museums, historic buildings and monuments in the Netherlands will have free entrance. Visit the local VVV (Tourist) Office to find out which monuments and museums participate.

*Scottish Weekend* at Landcommanderij Alden Biesen, Kasteelstraat 6 in Bilzen (BE). This attractive fair includes Pipe Band

Championships; Highland Dance Competition; a Celtic Night on Sept. 9; a solo piping and drumming competition and Highland Games. Throughout the weekend you can enjoy a Scottish Market; sheep herding; folk appearances; Whisky tasting; a Champagne & Oyster bar and lots more. Entry is €10; children 14 and younger: free entrance. The ticket price includes car parking, free visit to the castle and its courts, the day program on Saturday, Scottish Market and the Celtic Night. For more information surf to

[www.scottish-weekend.be](http://www.scottish-weekend.be).

*Festival of rare plants, roses & kitchen gardens* at Castle Hex near the town of Heers in Belgium. Every year, on the second weekend of September the gardens are open to the public. Specialist nurseries, many holding national collections, put their best products for sale. At the same time visitors can also attend exhibitions, demonstrations and lectures by professionals from Belgium and abroad on the most interesting subjects. Entry: €7.50. Directions: Hex can be found halfway between Liège and Maastricht, direction Tongeren/Tongres; Heks/Hex is indicated on the old Roman way from Oreye to Tongeren.

*"Het Parcours"* in Maastricht (NL). Miles of carpet is rolled through the center of the town. While you walk on the carpet, you will pass several stages on which more than 200 artists will perform.

**Sept. 10:** *Fair* at Kasteellaan in Heerlen (NL) with DJ; rides; and more. Open: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Through Sept. 13:** Every Wednesday visitors will find from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. an *Antique and Flea Market* at the Market Square in the center of Gouda (NL).

**Sept. 12-16:** *Harbor Festival* with lots of activities; artists; groups; a fair and fireworks on Saturday in and around the harbor of Alblasterdam (NL). Open: Sept. 12-15, 6 p.m.-midnight; Sept. 16, 9 a.m.-midnight.

**Sept. 12-17:** *Jazz by the Sea*. A six-day jazz festival at several locations along the Dutch Province of Zeeland's tide line. No entry fees. For information: [jazzbythesea@zeelandnet.nl](mailto:jazzbythesea@zeelandnet.nl) or 0031 (0)118-518222.

**Sept. 24 and Oct. 29:** *Antique Market* in the center of Valkenburg (NL), located across the VVV (Tourist) Office.

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## USAG Schinnen BBQ

You are invited to attend the annual USAG Schinnen BBQ. This is a FREE BBQ open to all personnel!

**When: Sept. 18 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Where: BBQ area next to the northern parking lot**

**Who: All USAG Schinnen personnel, (sorry no friends, family or contractors)\*\*\***

\*\*\*All employees (U.S. and Dutch) from USAG Schinnen are invited to attend this free BBQ provided they give their names to their directors before Sept. 8.

**Persons who are NOT on the list CANNOT come to the BBQ!!!**

All directors need to forward a list of their staff attending the BBQ to [Jean.vanHaen1@us.army.mil](mailto:Jean.vanHaen1@us.army.mil) or [ben.dols@us.army.mil](mailto:ben.dols@us.army.mil) by Sept. 8!



## LEISURE

# AFNORTH LIONS 2006 Fall Sports

DATE	CROSS COUNTRY	FOOTBALL	TENNIS	VOLLEYBALL	CROSS SWIMMING
Sat, 16 Sep	Away @ SHAPE	Away @ Menwith Hill	Home vs Brussels +	Away @ SHAPE	-----
Sat, 23 Sep	Away @ Menwith Hill	Home vs Alconbury	Away @ Mannheim	Away @ Menwith Hill	-----
Sat, 30 Sep	Away @ SHAPE	Home vs Rota	Away @ SHAPE	Away @ SHAPE	Home vs NATO, ESB
Sat, 7 Oct	Away @ ISB	Away @ Brussels	Home vs Bitburg +	Away @ Bitburg	Away @ NATO (8th)



## HOME COMING



Friday, 13 October

Powder Puff Football,



Chili Cook-Off



Homecoming Bonfire



Sat, 14 Oct	Home vs ISB St. John's SHAPE	Home vs London Central	Home vs Laken- heath	Home vs FIS Heidelberg Lakenheath	Home vs Eifel
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Sat, 21 Oct	-----	1 <sup>st</sup> Round Div III--TBA Play-Offs	-----	-----	-----
Thu-Sat, 26-28 Oct	Europeans @ Heidelberg (28 <sup>th</sup> )	2 <sup>nd</sup> Round Div III--TBA Play-Offs	Europeans (26-28 <sup>th</sup> ) @ Wiesbaden	Home vs Brussels + (28 <sup>th</sup> )	Away @ K-Town (28 <sup>th</sup> )
Thu-Sat, 2-4 Nov	-----	Championships Div III @ Super Six Site (4 <sup>th</sup> )	-----	Europeans @ K-Town (3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> )	Away @ Heidelberg (Sun, 5 <sup>th</sup> )
Fri, 10 Nov	----- AFNORTH Fall Sports Banquet -----				

\*Call 0031-(0)45-527-8261, M-F, 8:30-3:30, for updated Lions' information & start times. For Orcas' info: [www.geilenkirchenorcass.org](http://www.geilenkirchenorcass.org)

**AFNORTH LIONS BOOSTER CLUB -- Supporting Your AFNORTH LIONS**

## SCHINNEN NOTES

# PWOC Fellowship Night!

*"Unity- Abide in Him"*

Ladies please join us for a fun evening of  
dinner and worship with  
Christian recording artist Dan Meyers

Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

7:00 pm

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – JFC Brunssum  
International Chapel

Childcare Provided

For more information, contact  
Angela Bailey at (31) 0455231901



## Fire Prevention: A parents role

Children playing with smoking materials is one of the major causes of fires in and around the home. Fires of this origin have frequently had fatal consequences. The ultimate responsibility for preventing such fires does not lie with the children; it is the parents responsibility to be proactive in taking measures to prevent these fires. The first step in preventing fires is to talk your children about the dangers of playing with matches and lighters. The second step is to remove the temptation by keeping matches and lighters out of the reach and out of the sight of children. Parents are the ones that can prevent these kinds of fires.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## USAG Schinnen Town Hall and AAFES/DECA Forum

The next town hall will be in the Schinnen Sports Center on Sept. 20 at 7:00 p.m. This is your chance to hear about your community from Schinnen leadership. It's also an open forum for you to listen, discuss and get questions answered about your local AAFES and DECA facilities here at Schinnen. All Tri-Border community members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

### Power Luncheon



Come commune and eat lunch with your friends and co-workers all while getting a spiritually uplifting message at the Schinnen Power Luncheon Sept. 11 at noon in the Schinnen Bowling Center.

